

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT

SOMEWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES, SLAVE LABOR HAS COME DOWN INTO OUR TIME! IT MAY SOUND UNBELIEVABLE, BUT DON'T SAY ANYTHING UNTIL YOU'VE READ THIS STORY OF "THE

20TH
CENTURY
SLAVES"



FLYING THE BEECHCRAFT SOUTH, CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT ENCOUNTERS A VIOLENT STORM!

THIS BLOW HAS ALL THE EARMARKS OF A TROPICAL STORM! I DIDN'T EXPECT TO FIND ONE HERE IN THE U.S!



WOW! THIS MUD FLAT'S THE LAST PLACE I'D PICK FOR A LANDING, BUT RIGHT NOW IT FEELS LIKE SOLID GROUND--- OH-OH! THERE GOES MY WING!!



I'D BETTER CHANGE INTO OVERALLS BEFORE THE MUD COVERS ME! HOPE I CAN BUY REPAIR PARTS IN THE NEAREST TOWN...



CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT



WHAT A PLACE TO BE STRANDED IN! I DON'T REMEMBER WHEN I'VE SEEN A WORSE LOOKING TOWN!

Y'ALL SEE WHAT AH DO, RUFÉ?

YUP, A BUM AS AIN'T GOT NO BIZNESS HERE, ZEB!



SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER, RUFÉ, AIN'T HE?

MIGHTY SUSPICIOUS, EF Y'ASK ME...

HEY! TAKE YOUR PAWS OFF ME!



OH, GETTIN' TOUGH, EH? AH'LL LARN YA--- OOP, SORRY, RUFÉ...

THIS IS GOING TO BE MORE INTERESTING THAN I THOUGHT...



IF YOU BOYS WANT TO MIX IT UP A BIT...

CUDDIDOUT!

STOP! STOP IN THE NAME O' THE LAW, STRANGER!



WHAT'S THAT?... LAW?

YUP! THERE S ME BADGE! DEPPITY SHERIFF O' THIS TOWN!

ME TOO! EF'N YA DON'T WANT NO MORE TROUBLE WIT' THE LAW, YA'D BETTER COME ALONG QUIET!



I DIDN'T KNOW YOU BOYS WERE DEPUTIES! I DON'T WANT TO TANGLE WITH THE LAW...

HUMPHI--- WE'LL SEE WHAT THE SHERIFF HAS TO SAY ABOUT THAT!



LESSEE, NOW... VAGRANCY--- TRESPASSING--- RESISTIN' A OFFICER IN THE PUSSOOT O' HIS DUTY--- ASSALT 'N BATTERY--- PURTY SERIOUS OFFENSES, YOUNG MAN--- I THINK THUTY DAYS ON THE CHAIN GANG'LL COOL YOU OFF...

BUT--- BUT...



YOU MAY BE THE LAW HERE BUT YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THAT!

I CUD MAKE THAT SIXTY DAYS, SO YA'D BETTER HUSH UP--- YOU LOOK LIKE A PURTY STRONG FELLER TO ME...

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT

CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT IS SHACKLED AND LED OUT WITH THE CHAIN GANG!

'LO, STEVENS--- GOT A COUPLE O' HUSKIES FER YA TODAY!

THEY'D BETTER BE HUSKIES--- THIS RAIN'S GONNA BRING ON THE FLOOD OR I MISS MY GUESS, SHERIFF!

I COULD CHANGE TO CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT, BUT I THINK I'LL JUST PLAY ALONG AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.

ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS CUT GROOVES AND CATCH THE PINE GUM AS IT OOZES OUT--- THAT'S WHAT WE MAKE TURPENTINE FROM...

I GET IT!

BUT I'D STILL LIKE TO KNOW WHY CONVICTS ARE USED ON A PRIVATE PLANTATION.

WONDER WHERE THOSE TWO ARE HEADED FOR? THINK I'LL TRAIL THEM!

PHEW--- THESE SHACKLES MAKE IT TOUGH GOING--- HOPE I HAVEN'T LOST THEIR TRAIL--- OH, THAT BOAT....

THIS IS A NEW ONE ON ME--- A PRISONER TRACKING DOWN THE SHERIFF!... NOW FOR A PEEK INTO THE CABIN...

HERE'S YOUR MONEY, PETERS...

...AND CHEAP, TOO! MY SKIN WOULDN'T BE WORTH MUCH IF IT EVER GOT OUT THAT I WAS SELLING YOU MY CONVICTS TO WORK ON YOUR PLANTATION!

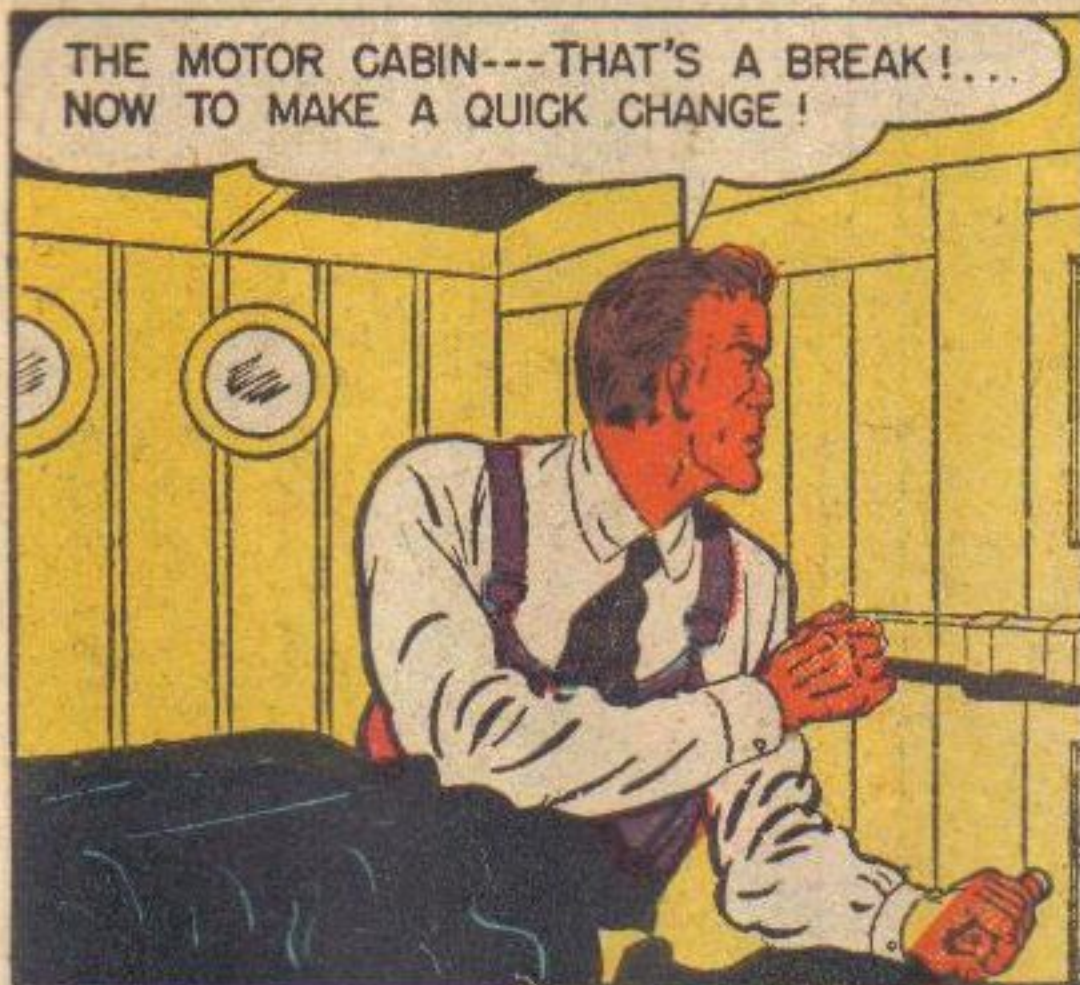
TUT-TUT, PETERS--- I COULD HIRE LABORERS FOR NOT MUCH MORE THAN I'M PAYING YOU!

GO ON! NO ONE AROUND HERE'D WORK IN THIS SWAMP CUZ YOU'RE TOO CHEAP TO FIX THE LEVEE AGAINST FLOODS ---HEY! WHAT'S THERE?

SOMEONE'S ALISTENIN'!

WELL, HE AIN'T NEVER GONNA TALK ABOUT IT!

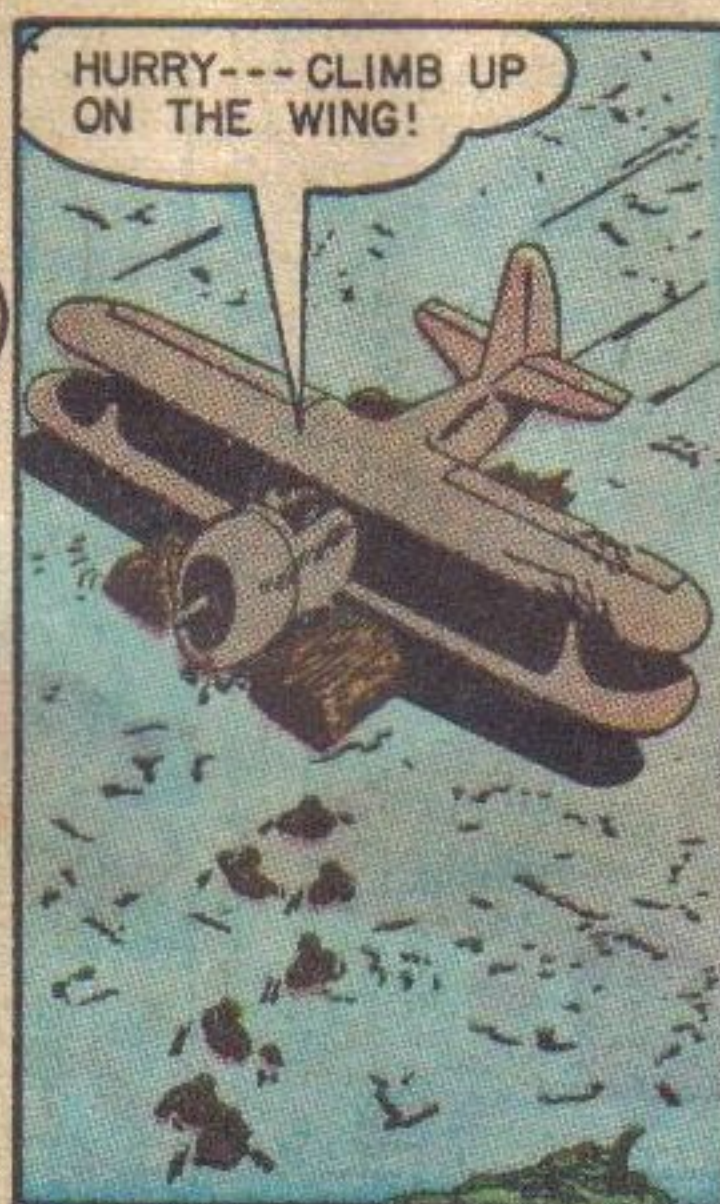
CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT



CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT



CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT



CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT



HERE-- THESE HACK SAWS WILL CUT THROUGH YOUR SHACKLES!

THEN MAYBE YOU'LL FLY OVER THAT BOAT AND WE CAN DROP THEM ON THEIR HEADS---



PULL OVER!

HA! THINK YA KIN CATCH US WITH THAT LOAD?



EVEN IF THE WING WEREN'T BROKEN, THE PLANE COULDN'T LIFT ALL THIS WEIGHT, BUT WE MAY BE ABLE TO GIVE THAT BOAT A RACE ALL THE SAME!



IF THE STORM DOESN'T ROUGH UP THE WATER ENOUGH, THIS OUGHT TO!... I'VE FASTENED THE BALL AND CHAIN TO THE PROPELLER!



THE SPINNING BALL AND CHAIN LASH THE WATER INTO A FRENZY!

BET THEY DIDN'T EXPECT A MAN-MADE STORM!



STOP! STOP! WE'RE--- GLUG....

I GIVE UB-BLUB!

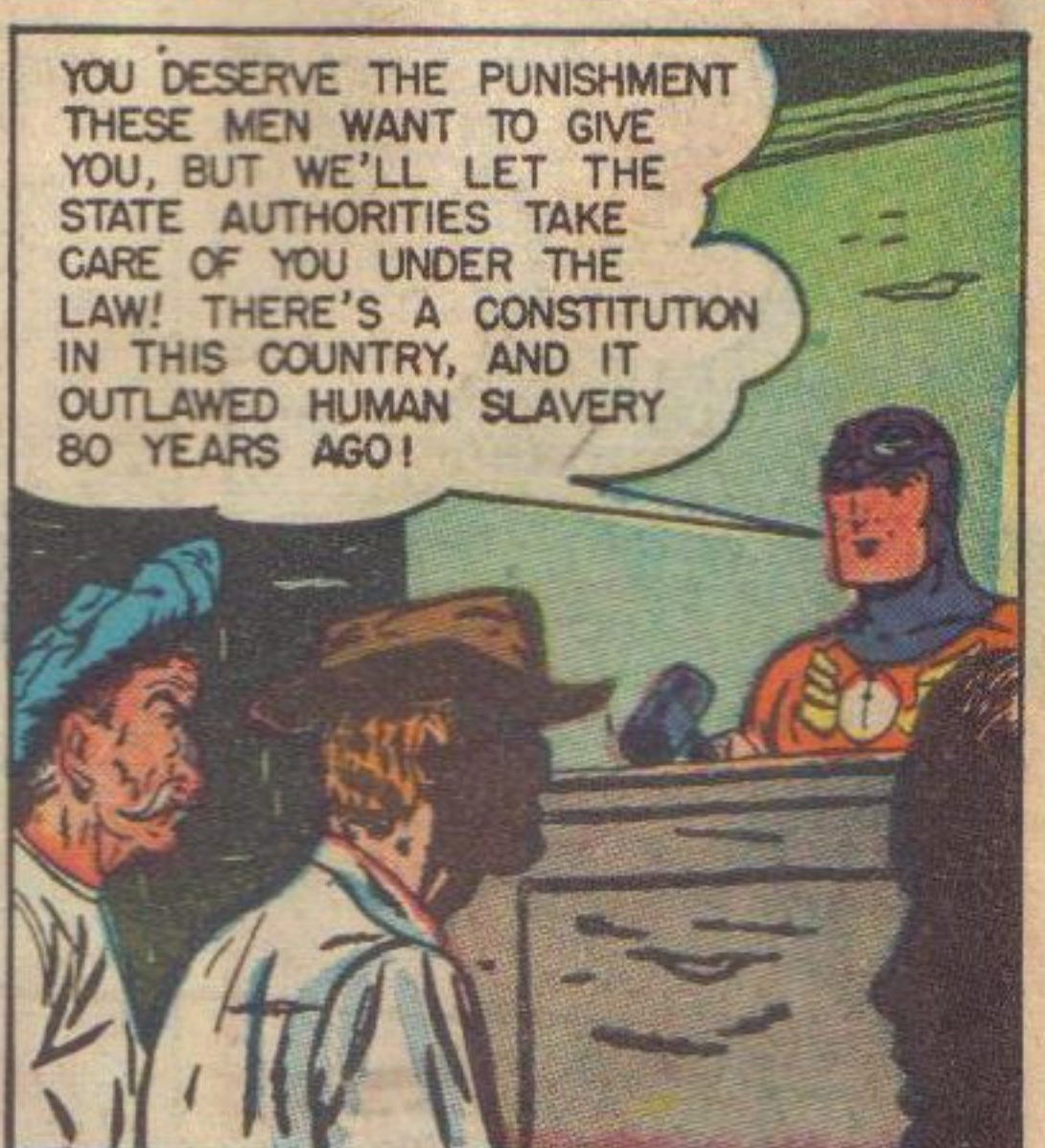


LATER...

THOSE CROOKS GAVE ME SIXTY DAYS FOR DRIVING 20 MILES AN HOUR!

ME, TOO! LET'S LOCK THEM UP FOR LIFE!

THESE RATS HAVE SENT MANY MEN OUT OF HERE IN CHAINS, BUT I'LL BET IT'S THE FIRST TIME THEY'VE FELT IT THEMSELVES!



YOU DESERVE THE PUNISHMENT THESE MEN WANT TO GIVE YOU, BUT WE'LL LET THE STATE AUTHORITIES TAKE CARE OF YOU UNDER THE LAW! THERE'S A CONSTITUTION IN THIS COUNTRY, AND IT OUTLAWED HUMAN SLAVERY 80 YEARS AGO!